November 5, 2026

Dear St. Luke the Evangelist parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! This parish annual letter summarizes the sacramental and financial status of our parish during the 2025-2026 fiscal year. We have 471 families registered. Growing numbers of UNG students, new families, and converts are joining our parish. Thanks to you, our parish has really sanctified our spiritual and temporal goods. I want to share that news with you and give glory to God, the source and cause of all good.

With *the Eucharist as the source and summit* of our faith, the sacramental life remains at the center of our life in Christ at St. Luke. During this year, we celebrated 10 Baptisms. There were 5 teens confirmed by Archbishop Hartmayer and 19 other Confirmations during the year. We started a second class of O.C.I.A. to accommodate the interest. Over 417 Masses were offered. We had 9 children make their first Holy Communion. Additionally, over 2,000 hours were spent in Eucharistic Adoration. As a pastor, I am so grateful to God and you for this commitment. Our choir continues to grow.

Growth has taken place in our ministry to couples getting married. There were 11 couples who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage, and, as of this letter, we have about 2 marriages per month. Parishioner Pete Chacon was ordained to the permanent diaconate in February, and he serves our parish daily. One St. Luke parishioner recently entered the seminary studying for the Archdiocese of Atlanta. A former UNG student is a novice monk at St. Bernard Abbey in Alabama.

As for the Sacraments of Healing, on average, 215 times per month the faithful receive the Sacrament of Penance. Many of the faithful received the Anointing of the Sick in addition to numerous visits to the sick. We had 6 funerals.

St. Luke is a parish *forming disciples in families*. Our parish school of religion has 93 students registered, and many adults participate in formation activities and small groups. I want to highlight the men's Bible study on Tuesday nights which draws usually over ten men. The primary teachers in the way of faith are parents. After years of consultation, Archbishop Hartmayer has begun an archdiocesan-wide plan to orient our faith formation around adult discipleship and

youth ministry, called *Formed to Send.* The age of Confirmation will lower to the 6th grade by 2031. Starting in the new fiscal year, St. Luke offers more opportunities for our parents and adults to grow as disciples of Christ.

Our college ministry continues to grow, offering weekly reunions, formation activities, monthly Adoration, and retreats. We sent a group to the Seek national college conference after Christmas. I am excited to see them give back to our parish through their service at Dinner and Doctrine and at other times.

I am grateful for your generosity. We are running behind on our offertory giving, which serves our parish and programs. We continue to improve our physical plant. This past year, we have increased the presence of our police officer and made updates in our information technology. We have a consistent charitable outreach, and I want to highlight our very committed St. Vincent de Paul chapter. Additionally, we have been, and remain, a financially stable parish, thanks to cost controls and wise planning. Our parish continues to be very generous with our second collections which reach local and national charitable causes. Thankfully, we have no debt.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our parish. I pray that the Lord will continue to bless each person in the greater Dahlonega/Lumpkin area. Please take a moment to review the attached Balance Sheet Summary and contact us with questions. We made a donation to the North Georgia Pregnancy Services Center. You are welcome to come to our monthly finance council meetings. Please contact Stan Kunka to address the council or observe. As the year draws to a close, please consider St. Luke the Evangelist in your annual giving or your will. A charitable distribution to the parish will result in a tax deduction.

In the Lord,

Rev. Matthew Dalrymple
Pastor

Income and Expense Summary

FY 2025-2026

Income	
Offertory	404,617
Building Fund/ Maintenance	48,921
Religious Ed/Campus Income	71,291
Archbishop Annual Appeal Refund	17,293
Capital Campaign	1,223
Other Income	160,834
Total Income	**704,179**
Expenses	
Liturgy	162,674
Religious Education	151,697
Admin & General	96,869
Facilities	166,244
Rectory	14,425
Archdiocese Support	44,392
Music	40,679
Total Expenses	**676,980**

Balance Sheet Summary

as of 6/30/2026

ASSETS	
Cash	124,895
Savings	339,105
Endowment	196,332
Land, Building & Equipment	1,860,137
Total Assets	**2,520,469**
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Liabilities	5,259
Exchange Accounts	26,073
Total Liabilities	**31,332**
Total Net Assets	**$ 2,489,137**
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	**$ 2,520,469**